

## ALL-AREA FOOTBALL TEAM

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR  
JUSTIN SIMMONSFirst-Team  
Defense

**JAYNARD BOSTWICK**  
St. Lucie West Centennial  
junior, defensive lineman  
**Stats:** 74 tackles (8.2 per game), 1 fumble recovery, 7 tackles for loss, 2 sacks

**SEAN BOWENS**  
Treasure Coast  
sophomore, defensive  
lineman/linebacker  
**Stats:** 115 tackles (12.7 per game), 11 sacks

**JAMES CLARK**  
Sebastian River junior,  
defensive lineman  
**Stats:** 52 tackles (5.8 per game), 19 tackles for loss, 9.5 sacks, 2 fumble recoveries, 1 safety

**JOE FIGUEROA**  
Fort Pierce Central junior,  
defensive back  
**Stats:** 97 tackles (8.8 per game), 5 tackles for loss, 8 interceptions (3 TDs), 1 fumble recovery

**ANTHONY HERRING**  
St. Lucie West Centennial  
senior, linebacker  
**Stats:** 98 tackles (10.8 per game)

**DWAYNE HOILETT**  
Vero Beach senior,  
defensive lineman  
**Stats:** 52 tackles (4.7 per game), 6.5 sacks, 1 fumble recovery

**TY JACKSON**  
St. Lucie West Centennial,  
athlete  
**Stats:** 63 tackles (7.0 per game), 2 INTs, 7 pass deflections, 1 forced fumble; 434 yards receiving

**PATRICK JEAN**  
Treasure Coast senior,  
linebacker  
**Stats:** 146 tackles, 9 sacks, 1 INTs

**TREYVON JOHNSON**  
Martin County senior,  
defensive back  
**Stats:** 70 tackles, 1 forced fumble, 4 interceptions, 12 tackles for loss, 5 sacks, 3 defensive TDs

**MITCHELL PATTERSON**  
Martin County senior,  
punter  
**Stats:** Averaged 43.1 yards per punt, 25 attempts, with five inside the 20-yard line and a long of 60 yards

**SEAN PAUL**  
Vero Beach junior,  
defensive back  
**Stats:** 32 tackles (2.9 per game), 7 pass deflections, 1 interception, 1 fumble recovery

**JAMIE PAULDING**  
Martin County senior,  
defensive lineman  
**Stats:** 85 tackles, 1 forced fumble, 14 tackles for loss, 3 sacks, 1 blocked punt

**JOEY PESSOLANO**  
Martin County senior,  
linebacker  
**Stats:** 123 tackles, 3 forced fumbles, 11 tackles for loss, 3.5 sacks

**SHARIEFF RHAHEED**  
Fort Pierce Westwood  
sophomore, defensive  
lineman  
**Stats:** 41 tackles (5.9 per game), 7 sacks, 2 fumble recoveries, 2 blocked kicks

**RESHAWN SHAW**  
Fort Pierce Central  
sophomore, defensive  
lineman  
**Stats:** 74 tackles (6.7 per game), 14 sacks, 1 forced fumble

**FREEDOM WHITFIELD**  
Fort Pierce Central senior,  
linebacker  
**Stats:** 109 tackles (9.9 per game), 8 tackles, 3 sacks, 5 interceptions (4 TDs), 3 forced fumbles, 1 fumble recovery

**DRAVIOUS WRIGHT**  
Vero Beach junior,  
defensive back  
**Stats:** 71 tackles (7.1 per game), 2 interceptions, 3 pass deflections, 1 fumble recovery

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**PREPZONE**

See previous all-area teams on prepzone.  
TCPalm.com



ALEX BOERNER/TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS

Martin County High School's Justin Simmons is the Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers 2011 Football Defensive Player of the Year.

# The stopper

Justin Simmons was the player offenses tried to avoid, yet he still scored two defensive touchdowns

By Laurel Pfahler  
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**STUART**— Justin Simmons was a playmaker in every facet of football, but the Martin County senior took special pride in what he did on defense.

Opposing teams knew to try to drive the ball away from him in the secondary and when they didn't, he made them pay.

Playing alongside another standout safety in Treyvon Johnson, Simmons finished the year with 90 tackles, five interceptions — two returned for touchdowns — and a fumble recovery, and he did all that despite rarely coming off the field. The safety/receiver also had 794 yards of offense and eight offensive touchdowns, including a game-winning catch in the final seconds of the Tigers' regional quarterfinal, and added 212 yards on 10 returns.

He is the Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers All-Area Football Defensive Player of the Year.

## Defensive Player of the Year

### Justin Simmons

**Martin County senior, safety**

**Stats:** 90 tackles, five interceptions (two returned for touchdowns); 496 yards receiving, six receiving touchdowns; 298 yards rushing, two rushing touchdowns; 49 yards on four punt returns; 163 yards on six kick returns  
**Coach Chuck Kenyon:** "He's an outstanding athlete and person. He just covers so much ground. He has an innate ability to go break on the ball. He's really come on as a player overall, and when he isn't making the plays, he is putting other players in position to make plays because he has two guys on him."

"I like to help my team in whatever way I can, but it's always more of a challenge to make the plays on defense," Simmons said. "The offense knows what they are doing, but obviously on defense you don't know what's coming, so it's always a fun challenge, especially at the safety position. You have to help in run and pass support, more passing, but it always kept me real focused in the game."

Simmons, who played running back and linebacker as a youth in Pop Warner, was turned into a re-

ceiver as a freshman on the junior varsity squad, but then moved to safety as a sophomore. He picked off five passes that year, and the Tigers realized they had an asset that needed to be utilized on both sides of the ball.

The 6-foot-3, 180-pound Boston College recruit also plays basketball, which he says has helped improve his overall athleticism.

"Basketball has helped me tremendously," Simmons said. "It helps you stay aware of what's around you, and basketball also

has a lot of physicality, so that helped with safety, and the jumping and vertical transfer to football as well."

Simmons' impact on the gridiron was especially evident in the regional quarterfinal upset of Charlotte, as he made a 30-yard catch on the last drive before making the game-winning grab.

In terms of defense, coach Chuck Kenyon cited the last district game as a highlight. Playing Viera for the first time in program history, Simmons ran back two interceptions for touchdowns to help the Tigers secure a playoff berth.

"His numbers weren't as good as they could have been this year, but that's because people tried to stay away from him," Kenyon said. "He was the player they worried about the most, and he still made plays when we needed him to."

"In the Viera game, they didn't know what he was capable of doing, and look what he did, but even against the teams that game-planned against him, he still came up with big plays."

## All-Area First Team continued



Jaynard Bostwick



Sean Bowens



James Clark



Joe Figueroa



Anthony Herring



Dwayne Hoilett



Ty Jackson



Patrick Jean



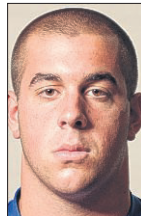
Treyvon Johnson



Mitchell Patterson



Sean Paul



Jamie Paulding



Joe Pessolano



Sharieff Rhaheed



Rashawn Shaw



Freedom Whitfield



Dravious Wright

## The Team

The 2011 All-Area Football team was compiled by Laurel Pfahler.

See previous teams and photo galleries on [prepzone.tcpalm.com](http://prepzone.tcpalm.com)

## Honorable Mention

**DEON ANDREWS**  
Port St. Lucie junior, defensive lineman  
**CARL BESS**  
Fort Pierce Central senior, defensive back  
**CORTEZ BROWN**  
St. Edward's senior, athlete  
**MICHAEL CLARK**  
John Carroll senior, defensive lineman  
**ROODY CLERISIER**  
Fort Pierce Central junior, defensive back

**WILL DACEUS**  
Fort Pierce Central sophomore, linebacker  
**WILL DAWKINS**  
Vero Beach sophomore, defensive back  
**ANTHONY GAMBORDELLA**  
John Carroll senior, linebacker  
**MIKE HARRIS**  
South Fork junior, defensive back  
**CHARLES IVORY**  
Vero Beach senior, defensive back

**ELLIOTT JACOBS**  
Fort Pierce Central junior, defensive lineman  
**LARRY JONES**  
Jensen Beach senior, linebacker  
**MARC KAGAN**  
Sebastian River senior, defensive lineman  
**CALVIN MILLER**  
Fort Pierce Westwood, linebacker  
**AUSTIN MOBLEY**  
Martin County senior, linebacker

**JEVON PENDERGRAST**  
St. Lucie West Centennial senior, defensive lineman  
**EVAN PERCOCO**  
John Carroll sophomore, punter  
**COLE RIPPLE**  
Vero Beach junior, linebacker  
**DUSTIN SAXON**  
St. Lucie West Centennial senior, defensive back  
**LONNIE SCOTT**  
St. Edward's senior, defensive lineman

**WOLF SHAW**  
Treasure Coast senior, defensive back  
**CADE STOKES**  
Okeechobee junior, linebacker  
**EDWIN THOMAS**  
St. Lucie West Centennial sophomore, defensive back  
**ATRAYO WOODSIDE**  
Treasure Coast senior, linebacker  
**JERANDIOUS WORKS**  
Fort Pierce Central junior, defensive lineman